

PROCLAMATION COLORECTAL CANCER AWARENESS MONTH MARCH 2009

WHEREAS, colorectal cancer is the second leading cause of cancer deaths in men and women in North Dakota, as well as in the United States; and

WHEREAS, about 400 North Dakotans will be diagnosed with colorectal cancer this year, and about 120 North Dakotans will die from the disease; and

WHEREAS, only 44 percent of North Dakotans older than 50 get annual screenings for colorectal cancer; and

WHEREAS, there often are no symptoms of colorectal cancer, but regular screenings can reduce the number of deaths from the disease by detecting cancerous or precancerous conditions early, when treatment is most effective; and

WHEREAS, education can help inform the public of methods of early detection and prevention; and

WHEREAS, it is important to continue the fight against cancer and to reduce the risk of this disease among our citizens.

NOW, THEREFORE, as Governor of the State of North Dakota, I do hereby proclaim March 2009, **COLORECTAL CANCER AWARENESS MONTH** in the state of North Dakota.

John Hoeven

Governor

ATTEST:

Alvin A. Jaeger ✓ Secretary of State

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